

**REMARKS**

Prior to an examination of the present application, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

The above claim amendments are presented in order to remove multiple claim dependencies, so as to reduce the required filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroyuki YOSHIDA

By



Jeffrey R. Filipek  
Registration No. 41,471  
Attorney for Applicant

JRF/fs  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
August 14, 2006